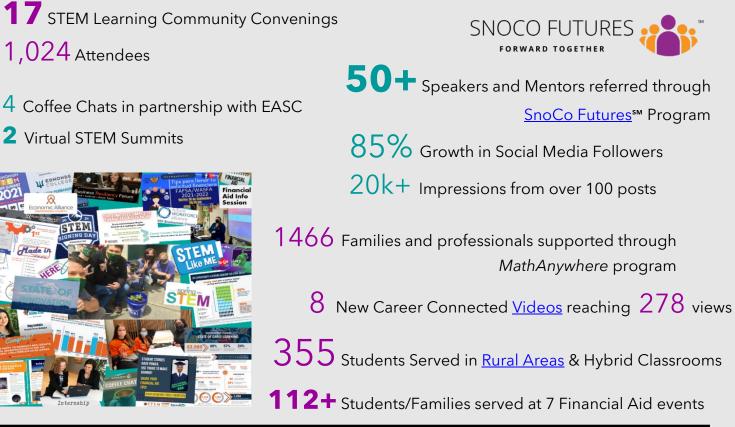
SNOHOMISH

2021 ANNUAL REPORT

CHAMPIONING EQUITY AND CAREER-CONNECTED LEARNING



Overview

Student connections to career connected learning and community resources proved to be the center of collaboration and programming to support Snohomish County students and families transitioning back to school from pandemic routines in 2021. Education institutions, community-based organizations, business, and government partners drew close by sharing best practices and executing innovative programs in support of student connection to family wage career pathways, connected to inclusive workplaces that nurture their growth potential. The Career Connect Washington Northwest Region and Snohomish STEM Network supported development of several career explore, preparation and launch programs to further improve access to credentials connected to high demand careers. Understanding career connected learning programs and assets to increase access for priority populations in Snohomish County, including rural, low income, students of color and girls in STEM careers continue to be central to our mission and work.

Impact

Early learning and STEM literacy programming, *MathAnywhere* was supported and implemented by <u>ChildStrive</u>, with the support of Sno-Isle Libraries and local food banks for distribution of supplies reaching more than 1,466 instructors, children, and families. In partnership with Snohomish County Early Learning Coalition, we elevated awareness and the need for increased access to high quality early learning programs. Snohomish STEM also hosted a virtual event growing STEM literacy for kids and parents, *Spring into STEM*, where seven Network partners presented a variety of hands-on STEM activities for kids and parents across Snohomish County to follow along at home, including Zeno Math, <u>Mukilteo STEM Tree</u>, <u>Sno-Isle Libraries</u>, <u>4-H Snohomish County/WSU</u>, <u>Imagine Children's Museum</u>, <u>Rock Solid Science</u>, and the <u>Snohomish County YMCA</u>.

Snohomish STEM Network partnered with countless education and community partners to support initiation and completion of student financial aid applications, including an Everett CC student peerto-peer navigator role to directly support high school students from priority populations, resulting in 30 student engagements in the first 45 days, fall of 2021. Continued focus for our priority populations proved to be impactful through partnership with local school districts and College Success Foundation, including 7 high schools with in-person and virtual financial aid completion support in completing financial aid supporting hundreds of students and parents. These programming partnerships were made possible by a 2020 legislative proviso that passed with bipartisan support, where the West Sound STEM Network served as the coordinating agency to compile best practices and publish a playbook. Snohomish STEM has multiple events planned in partnership with College Success Foundation, various trusted community-based organizations in addition to education partners to continue expansion of this work in 2022.

The Snohomish STEM Network Executive Leadership Council continues to provide oversight with initiatives, programs and advocacy centered in expanding equitable access to credentials leading to high wage, high demand careers in Snohomish County. In 2021, the Network initiated dual credit equity work beginning with educator and student surveys to better understand barriers, perceptions, and gaps in access to students realizing their goals and dreams. From cradle to career, the Snohomish STEM Representative Council collaborates to address and remove barriers, scale successful programs, and produce relevant local talent in Snohomish County.

You are invited to read and subscribe to Snohomish STEM Newsletters here.

Angie Sievers Director, Snohomish STEM Network Co-Director, Career Connect Washington Northwest Region <u>angies@snohomishstem.org</u>





